



## Training Programme on Language Evaluation MGI, Mauritius

A training programme on Language Evaluation was conducted in Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI), Moka, Mauritius from 8th to 18th January, 2008. A team of experts from CIIL led by Prof. Pon Subbiah, Head, National Testing Service-India imparted training to the MGI faculty. The other experts of the team are Dr. I.S. Borkar, Dr. N. Nadaraja Pillai and Shri S. Yadurajan. The imparting of such training is one of



*The CIIL team with participants of the programme at the MGI*

the many activities that are undertaken as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CIIL and MGI. The MOU was signed with an objective of sharing the expertise developed at CIIL with the faculty of MGI in the area of teaching, learning and evaluation in language education.

The programme was inaugurated on 8th January by Shri J. R. L. Putty, the Director General of MGI & Rabindranath Tagore Institute, Mauritius. Lectures on testing and evaluation were delivered by Prof. Pon Subbiah, Head, NTS-India and on text book preparation by Dr. I.S. Borkar and Shri S. S. Yadurajan. Dr. N. Nadaraja Pillai delivered lectures on the production of audio-video materials for language teaching. Altogether twenty eight faculty members representing the departments of Chinese, Education,

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Left to right: Shri S.S. Yadurajan, Prof. Pon Subbiah, Shri B. Jaishankar (Indian High Commissioner to Mauritius), Dr. N. Nadaraja Pillai, Dr. I. S. Borkar.

History, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, and Music participated in the programme. The valedictory function was held in the afternoon of 18th January. Mr. P. R. Ramlugun, permanent secretary and supervising officer, Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, Govt. of Mauritius was the chief guest. In his valedictory address, Mr. P. R. Ramlugun highlighted the significance of the MOU between CIIL and MGI. The coordinator of the programme Dr. P. Tirumalechetty presented a brief

report of the training programme-cum-workshop.

During the course of their stay, the CIIL team also met the Indian High Commissioner Shri B. Jaishankar and apprised him of the activities carried out by the CIIL for NRIs and PIOs. This included a briefing about the National Testing Service-India and its objectives.

## Research and Development (R&D)

- In-depth analysis of the • concepts of educational measurement and evaluation
- the content inputs and consequential effects of teaching, & learning
- Interrelating them with the objectives of education and the actual needs of the country

### Current Activities

#### Workshop on Concept Based Continuum of Graded Syllabi

1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>, January, 2008

A four-day workshop was held at CIIL, Mysore to review the materials pertaining to Concept Based Continuum of Graded Syllabi developed by this centre. CCGS has been developed by incorporating the common concepts abstracted from the syllabi of various courses followed in different systems of education. These concepts are organised along with their components in a hierarchical manner. There are two sets of CCGS - one for language and the other for literature. Each set consists of seven materials corresponding to seven levels of general education starting from primary to research. CCGS is a novel idea and needs acceptance of the academic fraternity of this country. The aim of this workshop was to review these materials critically.

The following scholars participated in the workshop.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Prof. V. Ganapathy<br>Retd. Professor, Dept. of Tamil Education<br>Institute of Advanced Study in Education<br>Chennai          | 3. Prof. M. Gnanam<br>Regional Director<br>Central Hindi Institute, Mysore Centre<br>Mysore |
| 2. Prof. P. Rathnasabapathy<br>Counsellor and Secretary<br>Thamizhaga Institute of Educational<br>Research & Advancement, Chennai. | 4. Prof. K. Viswanathan<br>Retd. Prof.-cum-Deputy Director<br>CIIL, Mysore                  |

#### Pre Convention Meeting

29<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2008

As a part of its consensus building endeavour, NTS-India is planning to organize its first National Convention (Urdu) at the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh, UP. Prof. Pon Subbiah visited the university to discuss and decide the modalities of the convention. He had a meeting with Prof. P. K.

Abdul Aziz, Vice Chancellor of AMU and apprised him of the requirements. The VC accepted the proposal and offered to extend all required facility with moral and logistic support. The details of the programme were chalked out with the help of Prof. Abul Kalam Quasmi, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Prof. A. R. Fathihi, Chairperson, Department of Linguistics.

During the course of his visit to the Dept. of Linguistics, Prof. Subbiah also delivered a lecture on testing and evaluation to the research scholars of the dept. as desired by Professors Imthiaz Husnaine and A.R. Fathihi.

## Consultancy and Training (C&T)

- Evolving a mechanism for periodical training
- Preparing teaching cum training modules
- Producing documentary films
- Creating trained manpower in various branches of evaluation
- Extending consultancy on matters related to testing and evaluation

### Current Activities

#### Interactive Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2008

An Interactive Meeting for the prospective writers of Training Modules on Testing & Evaluation was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of January 2008 at the CIIL, Committee Room No.1. The purpose of this programme was to explain the requirements, specification and the objectives of the proposed modules. All the academic details were provided at length by Prof. Pon Subbiah. The Scholars who participated in the meeting, raised a series of queries for clarification. The issues encountered by them while preparing the modules were deliberated in the subsequent sessions. The meeting ended with a note of appreciation to the NTS for undertaking this task of national importance. The following scholars from different parts of the country participated.

1. Dr.Mamta Srivastava, Assistant Director, Dept. of Vocational Edn., National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), Delhi.
2. Ms. Kanupriya Katyay, Faculty, Administrative Staff College of India, Bella Vista Rajbhawan Road, Hyderabad.
3. Dr.Jagrook Dawra, Faculty, Admin.Staff College of India, Bella Vista Rajbhawan Road, Hyderabad.
4. Dr. Nityanand Pradhan, Head, P.G. Department of Education, DAV College of Edn., Koraput, Orissa.
5. Dr. Swaym Prabha Bedi, Professor of Education NITTTR, Sector- 26, Chandigarh-160019.
6. Dr. Sunil Dutt, Senior Lecturer NITTTR, Sector- 26, Chandigarh-160019.
7. Ms. Nalini Xavier, Dept. of English, Tereasian College, Mysore.
8. Dr. A.S. Dasan, Professor, Dept. of Studies in English, Univ. of Mysore.
9. Dr. Mumthas. N.S., Senior Lecturer in English Farook Training College, Calicut-673632

Dr. Anand Ravi and Mr. A.K. Singh, JRPs (for Hindi) in the NTS-India assisted in providing the details of topics allotted to various individuals. Dr. M. Balakumar coordinated the programme

## Regional Field Units (RFUs)

- To take all sections and classes of the society into confidence through their languages
- To have wider participation from all sections of academics for building up of national consensus on various aspects of evaluation
- To identify scholars and undertake the process of item preparation, test construction, field administration, data collection and standardisation to establish norms

### Current Activities

#### \*Forthcoming : First Introductory Meeting

8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> February 2008

A two day 'Introductory Meeting' of the representatives of institutions (identified for establishing RFUs of NTS-India) will be held at CIIL, Mysore. A total of 23 members (19 from colleges and 4 from Schools) representing 12 regions where Tamil is in active use, is expected to participate in the meeting.



## Grant-in-Aid

In order to encourage individuals as well as institutions involved in developing materials and imparting training in the area of testing and evaluation, the NTS-India provides lumpsum grants as per the terms and conditions specified under this sub scheme.

Accordingly, a lumpsum grant of Rs 75,000 was sanctioned to the Department of Linguistics, Tamil University, Thanjavur to conduct a workshop on 'Testing, Evaluation and Assessment for higher Secondary School Tamil Teachers'. The programme will be conducted by Dr. S. Rajendran, Professor & Head, Department of Linguistics, Tamil University, Thanjavur from 11th to 15th February, 2008. The objectives of the programme are :

- to create an awareness to the Tamil Teachers on the key principles of evaluation in language education
- to provide them the details of evaluation at the formative and summative stages of language education
- to give them practical training on the design and construction of tests besides evaluation.



A lumpsum grant of Rs 1,50,000 has been sanctioned by CIIL through the Centre for Testing & Evaluation to the department of English Language Teaching (ELT), Gauhati University, Guwahati, to conduct a two day National Seminar followed by a two day workshop on 'Language Pedagogy'. The programmes are scheduled to be held from 26.03.08 to 27.03.08 and 28.03.08 to 29.-3.08 respectively. The objectives of these programmes are:

- to create an awareness on the changing scenario for the need of languages, particularly English
- to provide both regional and national perspectives on the teaching of languages
- to bridge the gap between theory and practice while imparting the language
- to understand language teaching needs & issues, in the North East
- to evolve a set of guidelines as recommendations for the teaching of English
- to discuss the issues and challenges in English language teaching at school and college levels
- to evolve strategies for the effective use of ELT methodology with the changing needs for English

The outcome of the programme will be relevant to the teachers of other languages too. The programme will be conducted by Dr. Anita Tamuli, Head, Dept of ELT, Gauhati University, Guwahati.

## Announcements

Module Writing: Synopses on developing *Training Modules* on various topics of *Testing & Evaluation in Education* are invited from Scholars / Experts / Researchers / Teachers of interdisciplinary areas. The modules that are proposed to be prepared are required to equip the NTS Task Group on Consultancy & Training which in turn will impart training to about 50 lakh teachers of all the disciplines at various levels across the country in a phased manner.

- No. of Modules still open for allotment : about 60
- Size of each Module : Max. 15 to 16 pages including exercises (as per specification)
- Language of the Module : English (with an option of translating the module into one of the three languages viz. , Hindi, Tamil, & Urdu)
- Remuneration / Honorarium : For each module Rs.40,000/-(Rs.30,000 - for English version & Rs.10,000 - for translated version)
- Maximum time given : 10 weeks (5+2+2+1 weeks)w.e.f. date of assignment

For details of topics, specifications, terms & conditions, payment procedures and model proforma (to furnish scholar details), please logon to [www.ciiI-miles.net](http://www.ciiI-miles.net) and look for **Announcement**

For further details please contact: The Head, NTS-India

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